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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/751,903	12/28/2000	Scott Ryder	APLE.P0007	9127

62224 7590 12/19/2006 STATTLER, JOHANSEN, AND ADELI LLP 1875 CENTURY PARK EAST SUITE 1360 LOS ANGELES, CA 90067	EXAMINER KANG, PAUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2144	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	12/19/2006	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>19 September 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-8,10-21,23 and 24</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-8,12-18 and 23</u> is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>19 and 24</u> is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) <u>20 and 21</u> is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>28 December 2000</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1.   Claims 1-8, 12-16 and 23 allowed. Claims 20 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2.   Claims 10 and 11 depend on previously canceled claim 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Abdelnur et al. (US Patent No. 6,212,640 and Abdelnur hereinafter) in view of Mastrianni et

al., US Patent No. 6,615,276 B1.

4.   As per claims 19 and 24, Abdelnur teaches a system and apparatus for automatically

mounting volumes over a network, said system comprising:

a client configured to request said mounting of said volumes (Abdelnur, col. 6, lines 16-

21); and

a server coupled to said client, said server configured to return a mounting command

block or mounting parameters to said client (a new entry is generated in the mounting table to

enable user to locate the resource; Abdelnur, col. 6, lines 7-21);

said client utilizing said returned mounting command block or mounting parameters to

mount said volumes (Abdelnur, col. 6, lines 7-21).

However, Abdelnur does not explicitly teach the method comprising a client configured

to automatically request said mounting of said volumes without the need for a user of said client

to request said mounting of said volumes. In the same field of endeavor, Mastrianni teaches a

system and method for automatically mapping a network drive without user input (Mastrianni,

col. 7, lines 31-36).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have incorporated the automatic mounting as taught by Mastrianni, into

the mounting system of Abdelnur since automation is desirable to alleviate user's manual

connection requests.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed September 19, 2006 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive. Applicants argues "in Abdelnur the NFS mounts the volumes. The NFS system is

used by an application to make a request for <u>a procedure to be performed and the results to be</u>

<u>returned.</u> ...The NFS method disclosed in Abdelnur generates the results and returns it to the

client as opposed to the method of claim 1 in which the server returns a set of mounting

parameters."

While it is true that Abdelnur enables network resources to be physically linked and

therefore a procedure performed and results returned to the user, this is process after the

mounting has been performed. When a new resource is to be mounted, the system of Abdelnur

generates a new entry in the mount tables. This information is forwarded to requesting clients to

enable mounting to the network resource. See Abdelnur, col. 5, line 65 – col. 6, line 21.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Paul H. Kang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3882. The
examiner can normally be reached on 9 hour flex. First Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the
organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent
Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications
may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished
applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR
system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR
system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would
like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated
information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.
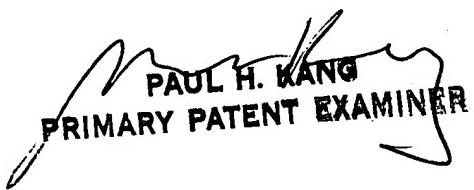
PAUL H. KANG
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER